



Hawaii Energy

Conservation and Efficiency Programs

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March 20, 2012

The Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Committee on Judiciary

RE: SB 2256, Relating to Condominiums
March 21, 2012
9:00 A.M.
Conference Room 325

Aloha Chair Cabanilla, Vice Chair Ito and Members of the Committees,

As the State's Public Benefits Fee Administrator (PBFA) and operator of the Hawaii Energy Conservation and Efficiency Program, we would offer the following observations for your consideration regarding SB, Relating to Condominiums:

First – Our industry experience has shown that individual electric energy users tend to use less energy when they are made aware of the quantity of their actual energy use and are required to pay for the electricity use directly attributable to the specific user, as opposed to paying a set portion of the aggregate electrical use of a group of electrical users, as in a master-metered condominium complex.

Second – Condominium complexes with only a single “master” electrical meter do not give individual condominium users any sense of the amount of electricity the individuals are actually using. This allows heavy users of electricity to pay less than their fair share and have little or no incentive to reduce their actual energy use or support sub-metering for the complex.

Third - Electrical sub-metering of condominium projects has been shown to cause changes in individual occupant electrical use that results in overall aggregate energy savings when compared to total savings in facilities with only a master meter for the entire complex.

Fourth - It is the opinion of the PBFA that electrical sub-metering of both residential and non-residential condominium complexes saves electrical energy and has a positive benefit towards the State's achievement of its clean energy goals.

In addition, Hawaii Energy provides a \$150 rebate for each qualifying meter. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,
H. Ray Starling
Program Manager